

# AFTERNOON HOUSE FROCKS of CASHMERE DE SOIE and CLOTH

A PAGE  
for  
MISSSES



At no time in a girl's life do her gowns receive such hard and constant wear as during the school years, when day in day out the same frock, or, rather, same style of dress, must be donned and worn steadily from rising until after luncheon, if not throughout the entire day. Later on when she has left school and her day is not lived by absolute routine a simple house gown may be put on in the morning to be changed later for a smart reception costume or a walking suit may be worn for a few hours, but never throughout an entire day. The school girl, however, dons her street suit as early as seven or half-past seven in the morning and wears either this or a pretty morning gown under her fur coat or rough ulster, except Sundays or holidays. Small wonder, then, that her wardrobe requires refurbishing and generally replacing in the middle of the winter quite as much as does a debutante's ballroom rousseau.

Simple gowns of the one material throughout, made somewhat on the order of the shirt waist dress, are distinctly more fashionable nowadays than any shirt waist and skirt combination, even though the waist be of identical color with the rest of the costume. As heavy serges and chevrons are so much in vogue this winter, however, especially for everyday wear, each suit of this material should have two waists provided for it, one of the serge or cloth itself made up on as thin a foundation as practicable, the other of foulard or crepe de Chine for the warmer days, when a cloth waist is out of the question for indoors. Often a new bodice will save the buying of an entire gown, and at this time of year it is an excellent plan to add one or two new silk or French flannel waists to the outfit, thus tidying over a cloth coat and skirt costume until the spring.

With growing girls it is seldom feasible to make the one suit or gown serve more than one year, and for this reason it does not pay to buy for them expensive clothes. It is infinitely better, for example, to remove the interlining from a winter coat of serge or cloth and by providing one or two new waists for the skirt make the costume serve for school wear throughout the spring than to buy a new school outfit for the brief spring season and lay the winter costume away for another year.

The average school girl to-day spurns a flannel shirt waist, preferring not to wear even the pretty French flannels which, in their bright colors, are so becoming and then thoroughly sunned and dried, they will become the most unsavory of all toilet articles," announced the April Grandmother in solemn tones. "Bristles afford an ideal anchorage for all manner of germs, including one which is supposed to be responsible for that dreadful malady baldness.

"As dust is a foe which threatens the hair of every girl who lives in a large town, do not be afraid of using plenty of soft water upon the locks, which cannot be kept clean, and consequently in a healthy condition, unless washed at least twice each month. But as the quality of shampoo for each individual can only be determined by consulting a specialist. For some locks the dry method of cleansing is best, especially if their owner takes cold easily. With a wet shampoo a great many people prefer to use the white of eggs as a cleanser, and quite as many others consider that there is nothing to equal castile or tar soap in hot rainwater followed by a severe tepid rinsing waters, each one a few degrees cooler than its predecessor. Methods of drying should be wholly upon the color of the hair. While a golden or Titian blonde should allow the sunshine to do her work, girls who wish to prevent their brown or black locks from taking on a faded, rusty or streaked appearance should carefully avoid the sunshine and have their hair fanned dry.

which can be so satisfactorily laundered. The simple gowns of the lightest weight serge or cashmere are unquestionably most attractive for the schoolroom, but the white wash waists which are still generally worn soil and must too readily be soiled. Silk is, of course, not very appropriate, but, after all, the dark colored crepe de Chine wears extremely well and with simple white collar and cuffs of embroidered linen makes an extremely pretty bodice for every day.

A great majority of the newest waists, however, are of foulard, the background of the same color as the skirt with which the waist is worn and the white figure lightening the effect of the whole costume. These foulard waists were first worn last spring, but their popularity did not commence sufficiently early for their vogue to be in any way hampered. Certainly foulard is a delightful weight for a separate bodice, and as it is a material which wears excellently and can be cleaned and even washed frequently it is not extravagant even for a school waist.

FASHION'S changes this year are of slow working, and there will not be the radical all destroying alterations of other springs. In separate waists, for example, the regulation model fastening down the front, with a full plaited frill and long, comparatively tight sleeves, the whole relieved with plain bands of lace or embroidered lawn, will still be worn. The newest models, however, show a wide shoulder line, somewhat suggesting the Gibson model, so run to the ground a few yards back. These newest waists show the shoulder plait tapering to the waist line, which, now returned to its normal position, is of noticeably smaller dimensions than during the reign of the Empire gown. Small waists of "wasplike" proportions are, however, not at all to be desired, and it is doubtful if that so unattractive and so sadly unhygienic fad ever returns to favor.

There is another change that is destined to alter completely the appearance of all this season's gowns and waists, and this is the introduction of the double puff or "buffoon" sleeve. As yet, this sleeve is small in width and short in length above a deep cuff, but there is no forecasting to what dimensions the design may attain in the course of the next few months. Since the narrow effect across the shoulders, occasioned by the tight fitting sleeve worn lately, is not apt to be becoming to the slender figure of a very young girl, the increased width given by even a small puff sleeve should be welcomed among the makers of school girl fashions.

Still another new model shows a bodice made with sleeves all in one piece with the front and back of the waist. This bodice may be quite flat front and back, relieved by only collar and tiny yoke of lace or net and by a four or five inch lace cuff, or if this is too plain of outline to be becoming a frill or jabot of lace or of the material itself laid down one side of the bodice may prove more attractive.

For quite young girls suspender and strap dresses are still worn, but the little gowns throughout, with a small yoke and collar of white to keep the dark color of the gown from the face, are unquestionably smartest. Instead of being made on any lining, the waist of the gown which is made with sleeves and all in one, may be worn over a lawn guipure, showing yoke, collar and cuffs of tucked net that can be washed and changed each day if necessary. This same model is seen also to a large extent among afternoon waists of chiffon cloth and net, the design in its extreme simplicity being exceptionally good for a young girl's waist.

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textures are put on the market at prices irresistibly tempting. Among the light-weight cloths the cashmires and the thinner fabrics, such as voile de soie and crystalline, are now to be had at prices which it seems almost wrong not to take advantage of. All these materials can be made up at this out of season time so reasonably that the small daughter can be fitted out for the spring at half the trouble and expense necessary if another month is wasted.

On Saturdays and other holidays the girl who is to "come out" in a year or two has already her luncheons, theatre parties and card parties to attend, and for these occasions a light pale gray voile de soie or any light silk is just correct. At present it must be worn under a fur wrap or ulster, but if made up now the gown will also serve for the weddings and other festivities of the spring, when a cloak will be unnecessary, and a pretty flower laden straw hat will complete the gown as a charming costume for warm weather.

This is the most satisfying time of all the year to the bargain lover—winter clothes and silks are offered regardless of cost, while advance spring

## Fireside Parties for Young Girls

FOR a young girl who wants to entertain her friends in an informal way on a winter evening nothing is more satisfactory and delightful than a fireside "fagot party." An open wood fire is in itself particularly attractive, and in these days of steam heat, even in many private houses, a wood fire is rare enough to seem quite a treat. When a party of jolly young people is seated around a crackling fire, bent on having fun, it is pretty safe to assume that plenty of fun will be forthcoming.

But to have a successful party, no matter how informal it may be, a hostess must have a plan of her own as to how it is to be conducted and must make her preparations beforehand. There are several ways of managing a bright and entertaining fireside party, but the most attractive of all is a "fagot party." The first requisite for this entertainment is a large quantity of small sticks, or fagots. The prospective hostess should get a few friends to go with her into the woods some day with baskets or boxes and collect the sticks. If she lives in the city she can probably find some woods near enough to reach them by trolley car or a short train ride, and the trip out into the country will be fun in itself. The number of sticks needed will depend on the number of people who are to be at the party, but it is best to have a generous supply.

When the fagots are brought home they must be broken into pieces somewhere near the same length and then tied up in bundles. There must be a bundle for each person, and some extra ones are often useful. If there are to be both girls and young men at the party it is a pretty and effective scheme to tie the bundles with different colored ribbons, two being tied with each color, and then the guests match ribbons when they receive their sticks of wood, and each pair sit together in the group around the fire.

The way the sticks are used and the whole plan of the party is in this wise:—One guest unites his or her bundle and throws one stick on the fire, at the same time beginning to tell a story. When the first stick has burned away another must be thrown on the fire, and so on until the sticks are all burned, the same person keeping the story going as long as his sticks last. When the last fagot has gone on the fire the next guest must untie his bundle and be ready to take up the story in his turn. And so it goes on until all those bundles of fagots have gone up in smoke and every one in the group has had an opportunity to show his or her skill in story telling.

Of course the hostess can choose whether she would rather have a number of short stories or one long one, but there is generally more fun made by continuing one story through the whole group of people and making one extricate the characters from an involved situation created by some one else. There is another question of choice in whether the story telling is done in the order in which the guests sit or by attaching numbers to the ribbons tying the fagots. And if the hostess wishes to give a prize she can have a vote taken at the end to decide who has told the most interesting part of the story and so won the prize. To make the effect quite complete it is well to have the prize for a party of this kind something that is appropriate to the occasion, such as a book or some pretty picture of a fireside scene.

Another amusing way to entertain a fireside party of young people is with one variety of the "gossip game." There are several ways of playing this game, the most amusing of which is done in this way. The person at one end of the group whispers (not very distinctly) to the next one some statement. Then the second one whispers to her next neighbor something else. When every one along the line has had a turn at listening to some little story and at telling one herself, the first listener tells what she heard, and her neighbor who whispered it tells what he or she really said, and the difference between them is often very funny. This is carried on down the line, or else the hostess calls on one guest to tell what she heard and then on the teller for the actual tale. Next she calls on some one else in the same way, jumping around the group until all have again had their turn.

If there is a prize various comparisons can be made—as to whose little item of news was most interesting and who came nearest to what she heard. The "gossip game" can also be played by starting a story at one end of the line and repeating the same thing as it is heard until it reaches the other end. Then every one tells what she heard and what she said. In this case it must not be just a statement; there must be a little story, and the telling of it aloud must be begun at the reverse end of the line.

A third kind of fireside party is made up of ghost stories. When the invitations are sent each guest is told that he or she must come prepared to tell a ghost story. She may find a good one in some book and learn it so that she can tell it in an interesting way or originate her story or tell one she has heard. For the telling of these stories there must be no light in the room but that of the fire, and the fire must be one of flickering embers just kept going by an occasional piece of wood. The fantastic shadows made by little flickering flames help in the effect of the stories. And the darkness is absolutely necessary when ghosts are in question. Of course the awarding of the prize to the best story is obvious in this case, but it might be well to have two prizes, one for the best original story and one for the best borrowed story.

## Suitable Cushions for the Divan

If the size of the room will possibly permit there may be a comfortable sofa or divan in a girl's boudoir. If there is a lounge conveniently near there will be far more likelihood of a girl taking the hour's rest or nap which she really requires each day than if resting literally means going to bed to lie down. If there is only space for it a couch can be a real economizer of room, for in a box lounge can be kept all the waists, thus leaving extra space in the hanging closet.

A box lounge can be made to order of small dimensions to fit in a special corner for very little more than the price of a regulation sized divan. Even a very narrow, quite short couch will delight the soul of any ordinary girl who has had hitherto to do her studying and reading in a stiff, high back chair and has gone without relaxation throughout the day in preference to sitting or lying down upon her bed, with its pretty dimity cover so easily mussed and soiled, yet such a bother to remove.

A cot bedstead disguised with a cover of pretty chintz makes a most comfortable lounge, and underneath it may be kept one of the new wicker boxes on rollers which hold so much and are so easily moved in and out. Any girl can know only in her dreams, can each one enjoy best the spare time during Lenten quiet in studying and reading up all there is to study of some one country which appeals especially to her because of its romance, its art, its history or its influence upon the world of long ago or of the present day. Then when the longed for time does come, as it surely will, what inexpressible delight there will be!

## Practical Talks by the April Grandmother

"HAIR can be killed by kindness," paraphrased the April Grandmother as she watched her young, est girl descendant, who was vigorously wielding a toilet brush. "It is one thing to observe that good old fashioned rule and regularly brushing the locks, and quite another thing to ignorantly be the means of tearing out those locks. Yet that is precisely what is frequently accomplished with the aid of a heavy brush, which, if equipped with coarse, stiff bristles, literally rakes innumerable hairs from the scalp every time it is used.

"Nearly every young girl imagines that in order to restore order to her tangled and usually very thick locks the brush is a primary essential. On the contrary, it is not a really necessary utensil, and in any event should be employed only just before the locks are in a condition to be braided or coiled. The easiest way to straighten tangled locks is to gradually work the fingers through them from the scalp to the ends, so that when the comb is used it need not encounter obstacles in the form of matted wads of hair. After the tresses are in good order they may be separated into small sections and smoothed by light strokes with a fine, soft brush, which should be used solely with the idea of imparting lustre to the hair rather than to free it from dust or dandruff. And unless such brushes are daily freed from hair, sprinkled with ammonia

"While a well bred girl would not dream of putting her hands upon her hair when in the presence of other people, she should form a habit of massaging her scalp whenever she is alone in her own room. Massage not only arouses circulation of the blood below the scalp, but helps to ventilate the hair and to free it from particles of dust.

"A method of treating the hair which, like nearly every good plan, is exceedingly simple, is to cleanse the scalp each night with witch hazel, massaging it into the cuticle with the finger tips. If this dry hair too fluffy it may be moistened with a few drops of sweet oil rubbed into the hair in the hope of improving its texture, length or color." warned the April Grandmother, laying her lips lightly upon the crown of her little granddaughter's pretty head. "Nature gave you precious the sort of locks which must be and smooth she will cheerfully do the rest of the work."

Canvas Hand Made Belts.

ONE of the industries with which young girls concern themselves is the making of canvas belts, lined in with cross stitch. These are done either in heavy silk or wool and are attached to silver buckles or buckles enamelled in the same colors. The style in which the canvas shall be filled in, of course, rests with the individual girl. Several shades of the same color are used of contrasting colors may be employed. For girls who are of Scotch ancestry the use of Scotch plaid colors is attractive.

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